

HCS SB 180 -- STATE AWARENESS OBSERVANCES

SPONSOR: Kraus (Torpey)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Tourism and Natural Resources by a vote of 17 to 0.

This substitute designates the following state awareness observances:

(1) The month of October as "Walk & Bike to School Month," the first Wednesday of October as "Walk & Bike to School Day," the month of May as "Missouri Bicycle Month," the third Friday in May as "Bike to Work Day," and the week of Bike to Work Day as "Bike to Work Week";

(2) The first week in November as "RSV Awareness Week" to be observed with appropriate activities and educational outreach to parents and the medical community, as well as programs to raise awareness about the causes, symptoms, and ways of preventing the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV); and

(3) The month of April as "Child Abuse Prevention Month" to be observed with activities that increase awareness of the issue and the prevention methods available to reduce child abuse incidents. The blue ribbon is to be recognized as the official state symbol for child abuse prevention.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that awareness needs to be raised regarding healthy living and the benefits bicycling can have on a person's health. The bill will encourage both children and adults to safely bicycle in their communities.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Kraus; Missouri Bicycle Federation; and Great Rivers Greenway.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.